

Munising Downtown Development Authority
Minutes of Meeting
January 17, 2024
Fuzzy Boyak Welcome Center, 8am

Members Present: Dale Immel, Travis Cross, Tom Hall, Rick Bowerman, Mike Nettleton, Pat Gariepy, Angela Gerou, Cori Cearley, Debbie Nedeau

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Kathy Reynolds, Pat Sanderson, Devin Olson

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Dale Immel at 8:02 am.

Approval of Agenda: Rick made a motion to approve the agenda, Mike supported. **The motion passed.**

Public Comment:

a. Event Funding-Live Music at Gallery Coffee on Feb 16: The board received the event funding request. No one from Gallery Coffee attended to present the request. The board discussed the request and the fact that this is not an organization raising funds for a specific purpose other than promoting the business. Cori commented that the Munising Visitors Bureau (MVB) sponsors events at public venues (APRD Concerts in the Park), raising funds for non-profits (car show) or community projects (i.e. the new playground), not for private businesses/venues. Travis said that perhaps the application should be modified with more specific guidelines. There was no action taken on this request due to lack of information and representation.

Approval of Meeting Minutes for December 20, 2023: Cori made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Angela supported. **The motion passed.**

Approval of Bills for Payment:

a. HTC	Phone land line	\$43.08
b. Kathy Reynolds	Cell phone data pkg	\$60.00
c. CNA Surety	Bond: Exec Director	\$100.00
d. GMBPCD	3 rd Qtr. Contribution	\$22,851.05
e. Embers CC	Postage	\$237.60

Pat made a motion to approve the bills for payment, Cori supported. **The motion passed.**

Budget:

a. December 2023 Financials: The board received the December 2023 financial reports. Dale said there's nothing that stands out on the financials, and we are in a good cash position. Tax revenue is above the amount budgeted. Devin said that's due to building improvements, assessments, change of business (such as Border Grill) and tax revenue is always under projected in the budget. No action was needed or taken.

New Business:

a. Economic Impact of Arts and Culture Studies: The board received three documents via email regarding the subject. Kathy said the Americans for the Arts information is a UP-wide study with surveys conducted at events.

Old Business:

a. Renovare: Dale said the board received the email regarding the latest about the MEDC funding for the project. Kathy and Devin have been in touch with MEDC and MEDC is still supportive of the project. There is some paperwork that still needs to be submitted to MEDC by Renovare.

Other Business: None

Executive Director's Update: Kathy discussed the gardening vehicle that she has been wanting to purchase and would have been partly funded by the City ARPA funds. The guidelines regarding how the ARPA funds can be

used have now changed and the DDA would need to fund the entire cost. Kathy will continue working with Devin to get a firm quote. Kathy also discussed putting a new mural on the side of the Auto Value building. She will work with the designer and building owners. It would possibly depict people in nature (hiking, snowshoeing, etc.). Plans are underway for Pictured Rocks Days on June 8 and 9. Jen Tucker is still with MEDC and Kathy will be speaking at an event with her. Kathy also discussed a Rotary Club pancake breakfast fundraiser for a school project. She will put in a funding request to the DDA. Dale said we need to look at tweaking the DDA funding request at the next meeting.

City Manager's Report: Devin said the audit is complete and the city continues a slow upward trend. The DNR is signing off on the boat launch project and it should begin in spring 2024. The Bacco contract with the state is still open for the M28 road project and they will be working on a few items and paving issues this year.

Round Table Discussion: Kathy mentioned that the DDA does follow the open meetings act.

Adjournment: Mike made a motion to adjourn at 8:50 am, Pat supported. **The motion passed.**

Next Meeting: February 21, 2024